In the claims:

Please amend claims 33 and 41, cancel claim 51, and insert new claims 55-60 as shown in the following listing of the entire claims in the Application.

1 — 11 (canceled)

12 — 23. (canceled)

24. (withdrawn) A method of preparing a derivative from a naturally occurring allergen, wherein specific IgE binding to the derivative is 50% or less compared to the IgE binding to said naturally occurring allergen, which method comprises:

modifying said naturally occurring allergen to induce IgG antibody production wherein the production of allergen-specific IgE is reduced.

25. (withdrawn) The method of claim 24, wherein the IgE binding to the derivative is 25% or less compared to the IgE binding to said naturally occurring allergen.

26. (withdrawn) The method of claim 24, wherein the IgE binding to the derivative is 10% or less compared to the IgE binding to said naturally occurring allergen.

27. (withdrawn) The method of claim 24, wherein the IgE binding to the derivative is 5% or less compared to the IgE binding to said naturally occurring allergen.

28. (withdrawn) The method of claim 24, wherein the IgE binding to the derivative is eliminated compared to the IgE binding to said naturally occurring allergen.

29. (withdrawn) The method of claim 24, wherein the specific IgG isotype induced is IgG_1 and IgG_2.

30. (withdrawn) The method of claim 24, wherein, the specific IgG isotype induced is IgG_1, IgG_2 and IgG_4.

31. (withdrawn) The method of claim 24, wherein the naturally occurring allergen is Bet v 1.

32. (withdrawn) The method of claim 24, wherein the naturally occurring allergen is selected from the group consisting of major grass pollen allergens, mite allergens, bee venom allergens and animal hair dander allergens.

33. (currently amended) A method of treating or preventing a human IgE-mediated allergic disorder

resulting from exposure to the major allergens of alder, hazel and birch, comprising periodically administering for a number of times to a patient in need thereof, a composition comprising one or more immunotherapeutic agents derived from Bet v 1, ~~selected by a process involving:~~

~~providing derivatives from naturally occurring allergens selected from the group consisting of the major allergens of alder, hazel and birch;~~

~~challenging an immunological model with said derivatives;~~

~~selecting as immunotherapeutic agents, those derivatives~~ which induce IgE-blocking antibodies and wherein the allergenic activity of the derivative is 50% or less compared to the allergenic activity of ~~said~~ naturally occurring Bet v 1 allergen.

34. (previously presented) The method of claim 33, wherein the allergenic activity of the derivative is 25% or less compared to the allergenic activity of said naturally occurring allergen from which it is derived.

35. (canceled)

36. (canceled)

37. (previously presented) The method of claim 33, wherein the derivative elicits substantially no allergenic activity compared to the allergenic activity of said naturally occurring allergen.

38. (previously presented) The method of claim 33, wherein the period between administrations of the composition is at least 14 days.

39. (previously presented) The method of claim 38, wherein the composition is administered to the patient from three to five times.

40. (previously presented). The method of claim 39, wherein the composition is administered to the patient four times.

41. (currently amended) The method of claim 38, wherein the time interval between the third and the fourth administration ~~being longer~~ is longer than the time intervals between the first three

administrations.

42. (canceled)

43. (previously presented) The method of claim 33, wherein, during each administration, substantially the same dose of the derivative is administered.

44. (previously presented) The method of claim 43, wherein, during each administration, a dose of at least 5 μg of the derivative is administered.

45. (previously presented) The method of claim 43, wherein, during each administration, a dose of at least 10 ug of the derivative is administered.

46. (previously presented) The method of claim 33, wherein the naturally occurring allergen is Bet v 1.

47. (canceled)

48. (previously presented) The method of claim 33, wherein the composition further comprises an adjuvant.

49. (previously presented) The method of claim 33, wherein the immunotherapeutic agents are adsorbed unto a pharmaceutically acceptable adsorbate.

50. (previously presented) The method of claim 49, wherein the adsorbate is aluminum hydroxide.

51. (canceled)

52. (previously presented) The method of claim 33, wherein the immunotherapeutic agent is a trimer of Bet v 1.

53. (previously presented) The method of claim 33, wherein the immunotherapeutic agent is a

polypeptide consisting of amino acids 1-73 of Bet v 1 .

54. (previously presented) The method of claim 33, wherein the immunotherapeutic agent is a polypeptide consisting of amino acids 74-159 of Bet v l.

55. (new) A method of treating a human IgE-mediated allergic disorder resulting from exposure to the major allergens of alder, hazel and birch, comprising periodically administering for a number of times to a patient in need thereof, a composition comprising one or more immunotherapeutic agents adsorbed on aluminum hydroxide, said agent being a fragment or oligomer of Bet v.1, said agent capable of inducing IgE-blocking antibodies and having allergenic activity which is 50% or less compared to the allergenic activity of Bet v. 1.

56. (new) The method of claim 55, wherein the composition is administered four times and the period between administrations of the composition is at least 14 days, and the time interval between the third and fourth administration is longer than the time intervals between the first three administrations.

57. (new) The method of claim 55, wherein the fragment is at least one selected from the group consisting of amino acid sequence 1-73 and amino acid sequence 74 – 159 of Bet v 1.

58. (new) The method of claim 55, wherein the oligomer is a trimer of Bet v 1.

59. (new) The method of claim 56, wherein the fragment is at least one selected from the group consisting of amino acid sequence 1-73 and amino acid sequence 74 – 159 of Bet v 1.

60. (new) A method of preventing a human IgE-mediated allergic disorder resulting from exposure to the major allergens of alder, hazel and birch, comprising periodically administering for a number of times to a patient in need thereof, a composition comprising one or more immunotherapeutic agents, adsorbed on aluminium hydroxide, said agent selected from the group consisting of amino acid sequence 1-73, amino acid sequence 74 – 159, and oligomers of Bet v.1.